

Agency for International Development

Pt. 213

Subpart F—Opening of Records for Nonofficial Research Purposes

§ 212.51 General policy.

(a) The Agency will open its records on an equitable basis to all individuals engaged in private research as soon as such action may be taken without adversely affecting the national security, the maintenance of friendly relations with other nations, the efficient operation of the Agency, or the administrative feasibility of servicing requests for access to such records.

(b) Access for research purposes to the classified foreign policy records in the Agency's custody will be governed by the regulations of the Department of State with respect thereto, as set forth in part 6, chapter II of title II of the Code of Federal Regulations. Application for such access may be made to the Chief, Customer Outreach and Oversight Staff, at the address listed in § 212.33(a) of this part. That officer, or his/her designee, in consultation with the Director, Historical Office, Department of State, or his/her designee, will determine the action to be taken and will so advise the researcher.

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AUTHORITY: Section 621(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, 22 U.S.C. 2381(a).

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Subpart A—General

§ 213.1 Purpose and scope.

This part prescribes standards and procedures for the United States Agency for International Development's (USAID) collection and disposal of claims. These standards and procedures are applicable to all claims and debts for which a statute, regulation or contract does not prescribe different standards or procedures. This part covers USAID's collection, compromise, suspension, termination, and referral of claims to the Department of Justice.

§ 213.2 Definitions.

(a) *Administrative offset* means the withholding of money payable by the United States to, or held by the United States for, a person to satisfy a debt the person owes the Government.

(b) *Administrative wage garnishment* means the process by which federal agencies require a private sector employer to withhold up to 15% of an employee's disposable pay to satisfy a delinquent debt owed to the federal government. A court order is not required.

(c) *Agency* means the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

(d) *Claim* means an amount of money, funds, or property that has been determined by an agency official to be due the United States from any person, organization, or entity, except another Federal agency. As used in this part, the terms debt and claim are synonymous.

(e) *CFO* means the Chief Financial Officer of USAID or a USAID employee or official designated to act on the CFO's behalf.

(f) *Creditor agency* means the Federal agency to which the debt is owed, including a debt collection center when acting on behalf of a creditor agency in matters pertaining to the collection of a debt.

(g) *Debtor* means an individual, organization, association, corporation, or a State or local government indebted to the United States or a person or entity with legal responsibility for assuming the debtor's obligation.

(h) *Delinquent claim* means any claim that has not been paid by the date specified in the agency's bill for collec-

tion or demand letter for payment or which has not been satisfied in accordance with a repayment agreement.

(i) *Disposable pay* means that part of current basic pay, special pay, incentive pay, retired pay, retainer pay, or in the case of an employee not entitled to basic pay, other authorized pay remaining after the deduction of any amount required by law to be withheld (other than deductions to execute garnishment orders) in accordance with 5 CFR parts 581 and 582. Among the legally required deductions that must be applied first to determine disposable pay are levies pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code (Title 26, United States Code) and deductions described in 5 CFR 581.105 (b) through (f). These deductions include, but are not limited to: Social security withholdings; Federal, State and local tax withholdings; health insurance premiums; retirement contributions; and life insurance premiums.

(j) *Employee* means a current employee of the Federal Government including a current member of the Armed Forces or a Reserve of the Armed Forces.

(k) *Employee salary offset* means the administrative collection of a debt by deductions at one or more officially established pay intervals from the current pay account of an employee without the employee's consent.

(l) *Person* means an individual, firm, partnership, corporation, association and, except for purposes of administrative offsets under subpart C and interest, penalty and administrative costs under subpart B of this part, includes State and local governments and Indian tribes and components of tribal governments.

(m) *Recoupment* is a special method for adjusting debts arising under the same transaction or occurrence. For example, obligations arising under the same contract generally are subject to recoupment.

(n) *Waiver* means the cancellation, remission, forgiveness or non-recovery of a debt or debt-related charge as permitted or required by law.

(o) *Withholding order* means any order for withholding or garnishment of pay issued by USAID or a judicial or administrative body. For the purposes of